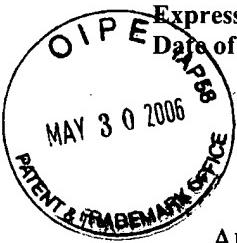


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Rothberg et al.

CONF. NO.: 6233

SERIAL NO.: 09/814,338

EXAMINER: Young J. Kim

FILING DATE: March 21, 2001

ART UNIT: 1637

FOR: ***METHOD OF SEQUENCING A NUCLEIC ACID***

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 29, 2005**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed December 29, 2005 in the above-identified application, Applicants submit this Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116. Also submitted are a Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(2) for a large entity. With this extension, the Response is considered timely filed on or before May 30, 2006, as May 29, 2006 was designated as a federal holiday.

Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this After-Final Response and accompanying papers in the application.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.